

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AF-10

NEA-11 IO-14 DRC-01 /139 W
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P 221702Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7296

INFO SECDEF PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, UK, IO

SUBJECT: UK PRESS ON DIEGO GARCIA

REF: STATE 012270

1. DIEGO GARCIA STORY RECEIVED LIMITED COVERAGE IN JANUARY 22 LONDON NEISPAPERS.

2. DAILY TELEGRAPH HEADLINED "ANGLO-U.S. TALKS ON BASE" ON PAGE FOUR. ARTICLE REPORTED THAT "AMERICA IS SEEKING BRITISH PERMISSION TO SET UP A BIGGER NAVAL BASE..." TELEGRAPH SAID THAT FCO DENIED ALSOP STORY OF JANUARY 21 BUT SAID THAT US/UK DISCUSSIONS ARE GOING ON IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SECURITY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN WITH "NOTHING TO DO WITH THE MIDDLE EAST".

3. FINANCIAL TIMES PUBLISHED ARTICLE DATED WASHINGTON BY PAUL LEWIS WITH HEADLINE "UK SOUNDS ARABS ON U.S. BASE PLANS". LEWIS SAYS THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS REPORTED TO BE CONSULTING WITH THE ARAB WORLD TO PREVENT HOSTILE INTERPRETATIONS BY THE ARABS OF POSSIBLE EXPANSIONS OF THE NAVAL FACILITY. HE REPORTS THAT DISCUSSIONS ON EXPANSION "HAVE BEEN UNDERWAY

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FOR SOME MONTHS". HE ALSO REPORTS THAT OFFICIALS IN

WASHINGTON DENY THAT THE UNITED STATES WANTS TO BUILD
THE ISLAND INTO A MAJOR BASE AND ALSO THAT THEY DENIED
THAT THE INCIDENT HAD BECOME ANOTHER SOURCE OF FRICTION
BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND LONDON. IN A TRAILER, FT RE-
PORTED THAT FCO AND THIS EMBASSY WERE "RELUCTANT TO
GIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NATURE OF ANGLO-AMERICAN
TALKS ON THE STRATEGIC ISLAND".
ANNENBERG

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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